GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1379
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2016
Welfare of Domestic Workers
Sahu Shri Lakhan Lal

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government is comtemplating for the regulation of domestic workers under Minimum Wages Act;
(b)if so, the details thereof;
(c)whether it has come to the notice of the Government that a large number of the Placement agencies in different parts of the country including metro politians are cheating large number of the deprived people including the tribals for the employment;
(d)if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
(e)whether the Government has issued any guidelines in regard to working of private placement agencies in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
(f)the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure strict compliance of the said guidelines by such private placement agencies?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) & (b): Under the provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 both the Central Government and State Governments are the appropriate governments to fix/revise minimum wages in the schedule employment in their respective spheres. The Central Government has requested the State Governments to take necessary steps for inclusion of domestic work as employment in the schedule and fixing minimum rates of wages for domestic workers.
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(c) & (d): Since domestic work falls under the State sphere, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to take action for protecting people including domestic workers from exploitation and to look into the complaints against placement agencies. However, the Central Government has also asked the State Governments to take necessary steps for registration of placement agencies providing domestic workers.

(e) & (f): The Central Government has issued guidelines on operation of private placement agencies to all the States and Union Territories to consider the regulation of functioning of such agencies in order to safeguard the interest of job seekers.

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